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Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10:00 to 3:00
or call for appointment

USH-Enews ~ April 26, 2017
Worshipping Together Since 1830
Sunday Service 10:30 AM
Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr



Image: fineartamerica.com

Worship Service: Sunday, April 30, 2017
10:30 AM "Movement in Musicals ~ Rebecca Pacuk, Choir Director, Pulpit
Guest ~ Rick Tsukada, Worship Associate

On Sunday, April 30th, members of the Unitarian Society of Hartford's Choir are proud to present a musical Sunday in which we will delve into the music of a variety of popular Broadway musicals and their roots in social commentary and resistance. The choir will be under the direction of Choir Director Rebecca Pacuk and are welcoming a variety of talented instrumentalists to join us as we explore the music of Bernstein, Hammerstein, Miranda, and others. We hope to see you all here. You won't want to miss this!



2017 Annual Report Submissions:

*The deadline for submissions was Sunday, April 23, 2017. Thank you to all who have sent your report. If you have not yet sent your report, please do so this week. If you did not receive an email reminder but will be sending a report, please contact Linda Clark at ushlindaclark(at sign)gmail.com or call 860-233-9897. **-Thank you, Linda Clark, Office Administrator**

RE News You Can Use!



This Sunday, April 30th, the nursery will be available from 10:15-11:45AM for morning worship service. For the children and youth, there will be a Chapel Service for the first 15 minutes of the morning worship hour followed by age appropriate classes. Join us in the Chapel at 10:30am!

Sermon Writing for Lay Preachers, May 20, 2017 at the Unitarian Society of Hartford. Now is the time to register for the UUA WORKSHOP for LAY LEADERS and RELIGIOUS EDUCATORS. Registration ends on May 14. Click [HERE](#) to register. Cost is \$35 - contact Sue Smolski (sue.smolski@gmail.com) if the fee is prohibitive - our goal is to have everyone who is interested be able to attend. Click [HERE](#) for more details on the USH calendar. **Rayla D. Mattson ~ Director of Religious Education, Unitarian Society of Hartford** ~ 860-233-9897 ext 104 860-839-5001 - cell
I only check my email on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday.
If you need to reach me outside of those times, please feel free to text or call my cell.



E-News Contributors Please Take Note: The deadline for USH E-News submissions is Tuesday at 12 Noon. Thank you for helping us get the E-news out in a timely fashion.

In This Week's Enews:

RE News You Can Use
Sunday Service Recap
Church Business News
Performing Arts at USH
2017 Programs for Adults and Families
Focus: Resistance is Daily Practice
Upcoming Events and Other News at USH
Upcoming Events & News in the Larger Community

Missed Last Week's Enews? Click Below:

<http://www.ushartford.com/nourishing-spirit/newsletters/>

See Articles and News for USH and the Surrounding Area you may have missed or find a link on the USH Facebook Page Here.

Please consult our Online Calendar regularly for all upcoming events at the Unitarian Society of Hartford:
www.ushartford.com/events/

To submit a Calendar Request go [HERE](#).

Contacts: <http://www.ushartford.com/about-us/staff/>

**Sunday Service Recap by Kayla Costenoble
Sunday, April 23, 2017**

"Building a Collective Response"



Photos: Harriet Gardner

Although earth is our home every day, the actual international celebration of Earth Day takes place annually on April 22. At the USH, our recognition came close; it took place during an eclectic service on April 23, 2017, when we recognized the 47th year of an event celebrated by 192 countries. The first Earth Day led to the creation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Act, the Clean Air, Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts. In 2006, Earth Day focused on global warming and clean energy. In 2010, 250,000 came to the National Mall for a climate rally.

Rev. Heather called our chalice a symbol for “spirit shining bright in dark times” and dedicated today’s chalice lighting to those USH members going to the Washington or Hartford Climate March this coming weekend. Those participating members in church today came forward for the ceremony.

Reminding the congregation of the USH’s many efforts to preserve earth’s resources, Green Sanctuary Co-Chair Jeff Howard, in his “Even if you don’t consider yourself an environmental activist...” remarks, touted our Green Sanctuary Committee’s successes:

- Becoming a successful and recognized Green Sanctuary UU church.
- USH’s solar array, which will supply 100 percent of our building’s electricity consumption.
- Divestment from fossil fuel investments as part of climate stewardship.
- Participation in climate marches.
- Statewide participation in programs to bring solar to homes.
- AND, an amazing portable solar oven (held up for all to see by Bill Simmons).

Ten persons participated in our familiar new/returning member ceremony, as President-Elect Katharine Ann Anderson asked questions of both new and existing members, such as “Will you work always to maintain healthy relationships, to learn with an open heart and mind and to regard difference as a part of the richness a diverse community must contain to learn and grow?” New members welcomed are Marie Basche, Steve Basche, Maura Begley, Margalie Belizaire, Kristine Glenney, Makenzi Hurtado, Javil John, Caron Lanouette, Kelsey Olguin, and Marielle Staropoli.

Rev. Heather, pressed for time in a service with so much in it, said she would use one story from Rev. Rebecca Ann Parker’s book, “Proverbs of Ashes: Redemptive Suffering, and the Search For What Saves Us” for her Reflection.

Rev. Parker wrote, “Everything I most loved had slipped out of my hand.” This included love, marriage, child, her faith. Deciding to commit suicide by drowning, she was stopped on her path to the water by a barrier on the earth that turned out to be a long line of members of the Seattle Astronomy Club with telescopes.

She was invited to look through a telescope for a perfect view of the red planet Jupiter. “I couldn’t kill myself in the presence of these people,” she wrote. “They

kept me in this world.” Although her heart was still breaking with grief, she was able to place it in a wider perspective.

“We are being asked to expand our heart to hold issues of sorrow and joy,” Rev. Heather said. We need one another to fully participate, to make some kind of mark on this world. We must do more than we have managed to do thus far, try out and take on something new, ask and believe more of one another. We must practice dreaming and listing all possibilities. The future can be astounding, if we grow and expand our hearts.

Magnificent music added so much to the service, per usual. Three members of the Meeting House Folk—Stephanie Briggs, Tom Gervais and Mike Zanta—performed “Warm Power of the Sun” with guitar, drums and vocals. It was written several decades ago by John Hall, the only professional rock guitarist to serve two terms as a Representative in the U.S. Congress, where he served on the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming. It is, alas, still relevant today. Some lines from it:

Everybody needs some power I’m told
 To shield them from the darkness and the cold
 Some may seek a way to take control when it’s bought and sold
 I know that lives are at stake
 Yours and mine of our descendants in time
 There’s so much to gain and so much to lose
 Everyone of us has to choose

The Meeting House Folk trio also sang “Blue Boat Home,” which expresses the loveliness of our planet (and is hymn 1064 in our more modern teal hymnal):

I was born upon the fathoms,
 Never harbor or port have I known.
 The wide universe is the ocean I travel,
 And the earth is my blue boat home.

Harry Belafonte’s rousing “Turn the World Around” was a spirited way to end the service and we did this lovely song justice.

Water make the river, river wash the mountain
 Fire make the sunlight, turn the world around.
 Heart is of the river, body is the mountain
 Spirit is the sunlight, turn the world around!

Church Business News



Stewardship Committee



We are pleased to announce that as of April 25 we have received \$262,000 in pledges from 118 members and friends. This is a very encouraging result! A BIG thank-you and hug to all who have made a pledge!

By comparison, at the same time last year we had received \$223,000 from 98 pledges. We anticipate we will receive 30 additional pledges or more so that our final total should reach \$300,000 and quite possibly beyond. Can we reach our crucial goal of \$327,000? Contact our Office Administrator Linda Clark, Bookkeeper Brian Mullen or Stewardship Chair Peter Meny to get a pledge card. And thank you! YOU make it happen here at USH! Only time and you (if you have not yet made your pledge) can tell. So if

you haven't, please do so.

The Stewardship Committee: Peter Meny (Chair), Stephanie Briggs, Carolyn Carlson, Kate Gervais, Ginny Hedrick, Laurie Kelliher, Deb Meny, Rev. Heather Rion Starr

COMING UP AT GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2017: A NEW UUA PRESIDENT!

Are you ready to practice our Fifth Unitarian Universalist Principle, "...the use of the democratic process"? We have a Presidential Election coming up--for President of the Unitarian Universalist Association. This will be a historic election no matter what--all three candidates are women, and we have not yet ever had a UUA President who is a woman. Based on our current membership number (206) the Unitarian Society of Hartford is granted five member delegates. Delegates do not have to travel to General Assembly (in New Orleans this June)

or even register as off-site delegates (a small cost) in order to vote. Voting will start online on June 1. Would you consider being one of our five member delegates? We want to make sure to vote early and use all our votes! Most everything you could want to know about the Presidential Election can be found here: <http://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/elections/president>

There are three candidates running (in alphabetical order):

The Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray: <http://susanfrederickgray.com/>

The Rev. Alison Miller: <http://www.alisonforuapresident.org/>

The Rev. Jeanne Pupke: <http://www.jeannepupke.com/>

At our Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 21, following the service, we will ask you to vote for UUA President so that our delegates may then vote on behalf of our congregation. Please take the time to read up on each of the three Candidates for UUA President and let RevHeather (revheather@ushartford.com, 541-390-6052) know if you would like to speak briefly on behalf of any one of them at our Annual Meeting! This is a particularly pivotal time for our denomination and your engagement matters.



2017 Programs for Adults and Families

Sunday will be the last day to sign up for the Women's Retreat at the Senexet House May 5-7. Plan to stop by the Programs Table to register for this program or the May 12 Pizza and Movie Night. Information about other programs at USH will be available, including the May USH Book Club.

The Winter-Spring 2017 Programs for Adults and Families catalog is now available online. Go to <http://www.ushartford.com/>. At the top of the page, click on Building Community and then Adult & Family Programs. In the bottom right corner, click on Current Adult Programs Catalog. You may call Janice Newton (860.677.1121) or email her at [janicecnewton\(at sign\)gmail.com](mailto:janicecnewton(at sign)gmail.com) to register or for program information.

Programs

USH Book Club: Thursday, May 4, 5:30. Topic: The Sellout by Paul Beatty. For more info. click [HERE](#).

Friday Pizza and Movie Night: May 12, 5:30 PM, featuring "Hannah Arendt".

Ballroom Dance: Thursdays, 6:00 – 8:00 PM. "Samba" featured in April.

Tai Chi: Wednesdays, 5:30 – 7:00 PM.

Emei Qigong Cultivation: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 5:00 – 6:00 PM. Contact Diana Heymann 860-461-0908.

Meditation and Dharma Gathering: Wednesdays, 5:45 – 7:00 PM. Any questions please contact Jan Bennett, chair2clinic@juno.com
 Authentic Connection & Communication: An NVC Practice Group, Wednesdays, 7:15 – 9:15 PM. Any questions please contact Jan Bennett, chair2clinic@juno.com.

2nd Principle Things You Can Do ~ "Focus: Resistance is Daily Practice" Each day we must choose to focus our energies. Each day we must take actions of resistance to tyranny & oppression; we must engage in acts of self-care & perseverance; we must reach out and connect with other human beings in building meaningful relationships. If you use Facebook, type the group name: "Focus: Resistance..." into your Search box and ask to join the group. For all of us: we are in this mess together. People are seeking out this congregation as a basecamp for connection, direction, relationship-building, solace, and clear ways to organize action. Your support for the work of this congregation is crucial right now. Perhaps more than ever, and certainly more than in recent years, people need this congregation as a conduit--a way to respond, make sense out of things, find community, build resilience and strength during difficult times. Let us support one another earnestly, now and in the days ahead. **Warmly—**
Rev. Heather, revheather@ushartford.com, cell/text: 541-390-6052, on Facebook & Twitter



The signs are here!

Available in 3 sizes:
 Lawn sign - 18" x 24" (2 sided)
 Window sign - 11" x 17"
 Car sign - 5.5" x 8.5"

On sale Sunday during Fellowship Hour (11:30-12:15)

Suggested donation: Lawn sign - \$20
 Window sign - \$5 - Car sign - \$2




**People's Climate March:
 Washington, DC, April 29**

**For more information click [HERE](#). -
 Submitted by Jeff Howard**

Upcoming Performing Arts Series at the Meeting House



**The Meeting House Presents:
Jack Williams –
A benefit for the USH Meeting House**

**Friday April 28, 2017 at 8:00 pm
Doors open at 7:30
Admission: \$15-Cash or Check only.
For reservations email request to:
Laura Stewart Cipriano at:
ConcertUSHartford@gmail.com
For more information click [HERE](#).
-Submitted by Paul Cipriano**



Please note that everyone is welcome to attend the events listed below at no charge! The donation amounts are simply suggestions.

Sunday, May 7 - 12:30 p.m.

BENEFIT CONCERT by Isaac Reguera for the Friends of

Music Fund ~ Our own USH Accompanist Isaac Reguera will play piano solos from his final Hartt recital for a Masters of Music degree. Expect to hear gorgeous classical and modern pieces along with Isaac's delightful improvisational skills. This concert is Isaac's gift to the congregation as he finishes up his year with us, and is designed to replenish the Friends of Music Fund which will in turn help pay for next year's Choral Scholars and Accompanist. \$15 suggested donation which will go to the Friends of Music Fund.

Saturday, May 20 - 7:30 p.m.

The Bill of Rights

A rousing choral presentation, accompanied by orchestra, of this nationally-recognized composition by Wesleyan Professor Neely Bruce. The Ten Amendments which make up the Bill of Rights will be proclaimed aloud before being sung. This piece has been performed repeatedly around the country to great acclaim... and we need it more than ever these days. \$15 suggested donation to go to a non-profit organization to be identified.

Sunday, June 4 - Immediately after the service

Family Share Talent/No Talent Show

Everyone with or without talent is invited to... sing, dance, play instruments, tell jokes, recite poetry, create drama, or otherwise entertain our very easily entertained USH family downstairs in Fellowship Hall. Be brave! The full title is "USH Family Share Talent/No Talent Show" -- remember, no talent necessary.

(But please give us a heads-up so that we can put the performers in order.)
ALWAYS FREE!

Please be in touch with PatriceFitzgerald@gmail.com if you'd like to be part of the new Performing Arts Group Events which is now forming and is full of ideas. We want to have a lively slate of events for the 2017- 2018 church year. -Submitted by Patrice Fitzgerald

Upcoming Special Events and Other News

Women's Alliance Senexet Retreat

Friday, May 5th through
Sunday, May 7th - 2017

Register at the program
table through April 30



<http://www.senexethouse.org>

The cost for 2 nights and 5 meals is \$185, or 1 night 3 meals \$100.

This Retreat is an opportunity to step back from this chaotic world for a few hours, recharge your soul, feast on gourmet meals, and enjoy the sisterhood of UU Women.

Talk to past retreaters to get their comments. Most have come many times. A few names are: Kayla Costenoble, Flo Grieb, Joanne McClurg, Ruth Westervelt, Laurie Rollins, Paula Bleck, Susan Hope, Marilyn Stockton, Diana Heymann.
Web: Click [HERE](#).

-Submitted by Louise Schmoll



**AIM Workshop: Negotiating the
Minefield of Language**
Sunday, April 30th 12-1:30pm
Meditation Room
Facilitated by Katharine Ann Buck

What this workshop is about: "People with disabilities frequently encounter language that robs them of their humanity. This workshop seeks to raise awareness and encourage more thoughtful language choices...There is no consensus across disabilities on a single

standard for preferred language. Most allies and some disability constituencies have embraced People First language, but there are cogent reasons why some communities and individuals with disabilities have not. This workshop encourages allies to adopt People First language generally, and to pay attention to how people self-identify. It also holds up the discomfort allies feel about the lack of a “right” answer.” (uaa.org/accessibility/aim/workshops) -**Submitted by Katharine Ann Buck**

Weekly Reminders

Rayla Mattson is our Rentals Manager. For new rental requests to use space at USH, please contact her at: dre@ushartford.com or 860-839-5001. For rates and rental application, go [here](#).



Greater Hartford Cohousing
Community – Sustainability – Life Enhancement

We are a group of households planning to build an urban cohousing project in Greater Hartford. We intend to create a project that fosters community bonds and sustainable living through thoughtful design. Our vision is to create an adult-centered community in or near the city of Hartford so we can enjoy its diverse amenities and peoples, become part of the fabric of our neighborhood, and encourage aging in place.

We currently consist of three households that have met weekly for a year. During that time, we have created a legal entity, completed a feasibility study with a nonprofit development consultant, consulted with architects who specialize in cohousing, and identified several properties that could work, while still on the look-out for other promising sites.

Our building plan will encourage sociability as well as providing ample opportunities for privacy. It will consist of 22 to 30 private living units with 1 to 3 bedrooms, clustered around a large outdoor courtyard that provides opportunities for socializing and gardening, as well as a large common house—the ‘heart’ of the project—which will feature a large dining area and kitchen for shared meals, and other amenities desired by the community.

Legally and financially our project will be structured as a condominium. Unlike a conventional condominium, however, we seek to build the community first and engage members in the project, both as early equity investors and as designers.

These early joiners will become co-creators of their cohousing community. For further information on cohousing see www.cohousing.org

We welcome your interest in our pioneering venture. Our current aim is to reach a critical mass of members who will eventually commit to joining us. If you think cohousing might be a good fit for you, let's get together.

For further information contact:

- Toni Gold, Hartford, 860-232-9018, toniagold@gmail.com
 - Susan and LeRoy Spaniol, Bloomfield, 860-216-1391, sspaniol@comcast.net
 - Martha Bradley, West Hartford, 860-305-3307, marthabradley49@yahoo.com
- Submitted by Toni Gold



Every Sunday after worship – 12:00 PM

20s/30s Sunday Brunch

The 20's/30's Group is hosting a weekly potluck brunch Sundays at noon. It's open to existing members, friends, newcomers, and visitors in their 20's and 30's. Members and guests are encouraged to bring something to share. *- Adam Brown (860) 817-0940*

In The Library
@ The Meeting House

RSVP to
adambrown6@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you!

Would You Like to be Part of a Great Team?

Join the USH Sunday Welcome Team! Please contact Linda Clark at [ushlindaclark\(at sign\)gmail.com](mailto:ushlindaclark(at sign)gmail.com), phone the office at 860-233-9897, or talk to Brian Harvey if you are interested in being part of this wonderful group of volunteers. The Welcome Team makes USH outstanding in its open and



friendly atmosphere, and helps newcomers find their way around our Meeting House.

Office volunteers are also welcome. If you'd like to help out in the office during the week for an hour or two, please contact Linda Clark. Pictured above: Phil and Harriet Gardner with their son Bruce, helping out with the Order of Service. (Thank you!)

Do you love to sing? Have you ever thought about joining the USH Choir? The USH Choir is a fun way to make beautiful music with some truly incredible people. We are rehearsing on Sunday mornings at 9 am before church. If you have ever considered joining our group, we would love to have you come to laugh and sing together! If you have any questions or would simply like more information, please feel free to contact our Choir Director Rebecca Pacuk at rgpacuk@gmail.com. (Formal music training is not required).



The USH Wish List

Hello Everyone! We mostly need People--those who are tech savvy, social media gurus, or Millennials, who would help us record, upload and podcast services. There are also some physical items that we could really use at USH:

A Folding Lightweight Table to use at various events

2 Floor Length Mirrors

New collapsible functional easels

Staples gift cards

Please contact Linda Clark at ushlindaclark@gmail.com or 860-233-9897 x100 if you have one of these items and would like to donate it to USH. Thank you.

Upcoming Special Events and News in the Larger Community



Dear Friends, I hope you are enjoying the beautiful weather. I would like to invite you to come to my concerts on Sundays April 23rd and April 30th.

On April 30th, I will be playing with the violinist Sirena Huang. Below is the formation:

Sunday, April 30th, concert with the violinist Sirena Huang

Program: 1) Stravinsky: Suite Italienne, 2) Paganini: Caprice No. 24 for Solo Violin, 3) 梁祝小提琴协奏曲

The Butterfly Lovers Violin Concerto, 4) Brahms: Sonata No. 3,
5) Saint-Saens: Introduction and Capriccioso. Reception following concert.

S

Suggested Donation: \$10

Concert Location: 71 Old Main Street Deerfield, MA.

For more information click [HERE](#).

**-It is in Old Deerfield, a beautiful town. I hope you can come. Thank you! -
Best, Pi-Hsun**



Photography by Ruedi Hofmann

at The Bushnell

April 27 – May 25, 2017

**Opening Event Thursday, April 27,
6:00 – 8:30pm**

**Revs. Cathy & Heather Rion Starr are
included in this multi-media project.**

The Golden Thread Gallery and photographer Ruedi Hofmann created an innovative and meaningful community art project titled “Pivotal Hartford: Faces of Change.” This multi-media project includes photography, film, and spoken word, combined in an exciting way that has yet to be seen in our region, creating an outstanding artistic experience. Pivotal Hartford celebrates a diverse collection of people that make an effort to create a strong and vibrant Hartford. Pivotal Hartford began pre-production in March of 2016 with an opening in April 2017. The opening will be held at The Bushnell in Hartford, with the ultimate goal of rotating the exhibit to new sites throughout Hartford. **Join Rev. Heather at the opening April 27th! For the entire article click [HERE](#).**

General Assembly 2017, June 21-25, New Orleans, LA

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend;

congregations must certify annually to send voting delegates.

Planning is well underway for General Assembly 2017 at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, 900 Convention Center Blvd, New Orleans, LA 70130. [Google Map](#).

By going to New Orleans, we can both celebrate our successes and recommit to the relationships that have been forged with this community. **For more info. go [HERE](#). Please let John Brancato, USH**

President, and Revs. Cathy and Heather know if you are able to attend, either in person or as an off-site delegate, at home online.

For Access to the Members Only Section on the Web Page:

For the username and password for the Members Only section, please email Linda Clark at ushlindaclark@gmail.com

To submit a Calendar Event Request please cut and paste the text below into an email and send to: calendarchanges@ushartford.com. Please look at the calendar the day you email a request to make sure the space is available. This will help to avoid double booking rooms. Double check the calendar for your event 1 to 2 weeks prior to make sure it's correctly posted. Email any corrections to calendarchanges@ushartford.com. Thank you! ~Linda

Put in the Subject: 'Calendar'

Event Title:

Room:

Time:

Date(s):

Contact Person:

A Short Description:

Cost: (if applicable)

Is Childcare Provided?: (Note if childcare will be provided you must arrange it with the DRE.)

USH Staff:

<http://www.ushartford.com/about-us/staff/>

Rev. Heather Rion Starr, Co-Minister

Email: revheather@ushartford.com | Phone: 541-390-6052

Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, Co-Minister (on parental leave until May 9)

Email: revcathy@ushartford.com | Phone: 541-390-7553

Rayla D. Mattson, Director of Religious Education and Rentals Manager

Email: dre@ushartford.com | Phone: 860-839-5001

Linda Clark, Office Administrator

860-233-9897 x 100 | Email: ushlindaclark@gmail.com

Rebecca Pacuk, Choir Director

rgpacuk@gmail.com

Brian Mullen, Bookkeeper

Office Hours by Appointment

Email: bmullen@ushartford.com

The deadline for USH-Enews submissions is Tuesday at 12 Noon.

Email to: ushenews@ushartford.com

Please note in the subject line, "USH-Enews." Thank you for your submission!

**Peace – as we come to the close of the USH-Enews week.
Be kind to others – and to yourself.**

Our Unitarian Universalist Principles: The member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association covenant to affirm and promote: the inherent worth and dignity of every person; justice, equity, and compassion in human relations; acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations; a free and responsible search for truth and meaning; the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process, within our congregations and in society at large; the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all; respect for the interdependent web of all existence, of which we are a part.